

EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATIONS

GENERAL STATEMENT

Under this head are included various associations of churches which are more or less completely organized and have one general characteristic, namely, the conduct of evangelistic or missionary work.

In a few cases they are practically denominations, but for the most part, while distinct from other religious bodies, they are dominated by the evangelistic conception rather than by doctrinal or ecclesiastical distinctions. None of them is large, and some are very small and local in their character.

Since 1916 there have been some changes. The Church of God (Apostolic) has been added but the Lumber River Mission is now known as the Holiness Methodist Church and listed with the Methodist bodies. The Church Transcendent and the Voluntary Missionary Society in America have ceased to exist, and no report was received from the Peniel Missions. Two bodies are listed under new names—Apostolic Faith Mission, reported in 1916 and 1906 as Apostolic Faith Movement, and Missionary Bands of the World, formerly reported as Pentecost Bands of the World.

The bodies grouped under the head "Evangelistic Associations" in 1926, 1916, and 1906 are listed as follows, with the principal statistics as reported for the three censuses.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR THE EVANGELISTIC ASSOCIATIONS, 1926, 1916,
AND 1906

DENOMINATION AND CENSUS YEAR	Total number of churches	Number of members	VALUE OF CHURCH EDIFICES		EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR		SUNDAY SCHOOLS	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Number of scholars
1926								
Total for the group	257	15,763	141	\$1,821,043	198	\$378,034	188	11,839
Apostolic Christian Church.....	53	5,709	48	476,800	49	36,072	48	2,581
Apostolic Faith Mission.....	14	2,119	4	273,500	11	60,622	7	578
Christian Congregation.....	2	150	1	1,000	1	250	2	165
Church of Daniel's Band.....	4	129	3	4,500	4	667	2	78
Church of God as Organized by Christ.....	19	375	2	1,400				
Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association.....	14	495	9	18,500	10	5,363	10	414
Metropolitan Church Association.....	40	1,113	4	201,650	34	107,580	33	1,618
Missionary Church Association.....	34	2,498	30	262,343	33	105,326	29	3,822
Missionary Bands of the World.....	11	241	9	20,000	10	6,588	8	248
Pillar of Fire.....	48	2,442	23	537,000	32	50,080	36	1,994
Church of God (Apostolic).....	18	492	8	24,350	14	5,486	13	341
1916								
Total for the group	207	13,933	134	854,435	170	265,167	145	10,067
Apostolic Church.....	2	112	2	6,400	2	650	1	60
Apostolic Christian Church.....	54	4,766	49	265,325	51	29,893	47	3,068
Apostolic Faith Movement.....	24	2,196	8	40,950	22	38,380	16	711
Christian Congregation.....	7	645	5	11,500	5	1,650	5	376
Church of Daniel's Band.....	6	303	4	7,800	4	895	1	22
Church of God as Organized by Christ.....	17	227	3	1,500	1	50		
Church Transcendent.....	3	91	1	4,500	1	700	3	84
Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association.....	12	352	11	21,100	12	3,887	12	502
Lumber River Mission.....	6	434	6	6,425	4	323	6	358
Metropolitan Church Association.....	7	704	1	100,000	4	80,635	3	423
Missionary Church Association.....	25	1,554	20	84,700	21	37,930	21	3,022
Peniel Missions.....	9	257	2	111,600	8	5,765	4	66
Pentecost Bands of the World.....	10	218	10	18,500	10	4,420	10	430
Pillar of Fire.....	21	1,129	8	171,555	21	57,790	12	559
Voluntary Missionary Society in America.....	4	855	4	2,580	4	2,199	4	386
1906								
Total for the group	179	10,842	115	532,185			136	7,615
Apostolic Christian Church.....	41	4,558	38	141,550			31	1,932
Apostolic Faith Movement.....	6	538	1	450			5	245
Christian Congregation.....	9	395	5	7,200			7	332
Gospel Mission.....	8	196	4	3,100			7	245
Church of Daniel's Band.....	4	92	2	2,400			1	50
Hephzibah Faith Missionary Association.....	10	293	9	11,300			9	402
Lumber River Mission.....	5	265	5	3,000			5	256
Metropolitan Church Association.....	6	466	4	118,300			4	360
Missionary Church Association.....	30	1,256	19	33,135			28	1,916
Peniel Missions.....	11	703	1	40,250			7	308
Pentecost Bands of the World.....	16	487	15	69,550			13	477
Pentecostal Union Church.....	3	230	3	90,600			2	175
Voluntary Missionary Society in America (Colored).....	3	425	2	2,400			3	390
Heavenly Recruit Church.....	27	938	7	8,950			14	527

APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

STATISTICS

Summary for the United States, with urban-rural classification.—A general summary of the statistics for the Apostolic Christian Church for the year 1926 is presented in Table 1, which shows also the distribution of these figures between urban and rural territory.

The membership of the Apostolic Christian Church consists of those persons who have been received into the local churches upon profession of faith and baptism.

TABLE 1.—SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, 1926: APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ITEM	Total	In urban territory ¹	In rural territory ¹	PER CENT OF TOTAL ²	
				Urban	Rural
Churches (local organizations).....	53	10	43		
Members	5,709	1,215	4,494	21.3	78.7
Average per church.....	108	122	105		
Membership by sex:					
Male.....	2,107	342	1,765	16.2	83.8
Female.....	3,602	873	2,729	24.2	75.8
Males per 100 females.....	58.5	39.2	64.7		
Membership by age:					
Under 13 years.....					
13 years and over.....	5,709	1,215	4,494	21.3	78.7
Church edifices:					
Number.....	56	9	47		
Value—Churches reporting.....	48	9	39		
Amount reported.....	\$476,800	\$102,500	\$374,300	21.5	78.5
Average per church.....	\$9,933	\$11,389	\$9,597		
Debt—Churches reporting.....	6	1	5		
Amount reported.....	\$11,650	\$150	\$11,500	1.3	98.7
Churches reporting "no debt" on church edifice.....	40	7	33		
Expenditures during year:					
Churches reporting.....	49	10	39		
Amount reported.....	\$36,072	\$8,948	\$27,124	24.8	75.2
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$27,249	\$6,566	\$20,683	24.1	75.9
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$8,823	\$2,382	\$6,441	27.0	73.0
Average expenditure per church.....	\$736	\$895	\$695		
Sunday schools:					
Churches reporting.....	48	10	38		
Officers and teachers.....	228	44	184	19.3	80.7
Scholars.....	2,581	442	2,139	17.1	82.9

¹ Urban territory includes all cities and other incorporated places which had 2,500 inhabitants or more in 1920, the date of the last Federal census; rural territory comprises the remainder of the country.

² Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

The data given for 1926 represent 53 active Apostolic Christian churches, with 5,709 members. The classification of membership by sex and by age was reported by all of the 53 churches, none, however, reporting any members under 13 years of age.

Comparative data, 1906-1926.—Table 2 presents, in convenient form for comparison, a summary of the available statistics of this denomination for the censuses of 1926, 1916, and 1906. While no parsonages were reported as owned in 1926, one, valued at \$2,000, was reported for 1916.

TABLE 2.—COMPARATIVE SUMMARY, 1906 TO 1926: APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

ITEM	1926	1916	1906
Churches (local organizations)	53	54	41
Increase ¹ over preceding census:			
Number.....	-1	13	
Per cent ²			
Members	5,709	4,766	4,558
Increase over preceding census:			
Number.....	943	208	
Per cent.....	19.8	4.6	
Average membership per church.....	108	88	111
Church edifices:			
Number.....	56	51	44
Value—Churches reporting.....	48	49	38
Amount reported.....	\$476,800	\$265,325	\$141,550
Average per church.....	\$9,933	\$5,415	\$3,725
Debt—Churches reporting.....	6	2	6
Amount reported.....	\$11,650	\$1,000	\$6,500
Expenditures during year:			
Churches reporting.....	49	51	
Amount reported.....	\$36,072	\$29,893	
Current expenses and improvements.....	\$27,249	\$18,139	
Benevolences, missions, etc.....	\$8,823	\$11,754	
Average expenditure per church.....	\$736	\$586	
Sunday schools:			
Churches reporting.....	48	47	31
Officers and teachers.....	228	197	130
Scholars.....	2,581	3,068	1,932

¹A minus sign (-) denotes decrease.

²Per cent not shown where base is less than 100.

State tables.—Tables 3, 4, 5, and 6 present the statistics for the Apostolic Christian Church by States. Table 3 gives for each State the number and membership of the churches classified according to their location in urban or rural territory and the total membership classified by sex. Table 4 gives for selected States the number and membership of the churches for the three censuses from 1906 to 1926. Table 5 shows the value of church edifices and the debt on such edifices, for 1926 alone. Table 6 presents, for 1926, the church expenditures, showing separately the amounts expended for current expenses and improvements, and for benevolences, etc., and also gives the data for Sunday schools. Separate presentation in Tables 5 and 6 is limited to those States in which three or more churches reported the principal items shown (values or expenditures), in order to avoid disclosing the financial statistics of any individual church. The States omitted from these tables can be determined by referring to the complete list which appears in Table 3.

TABLE 3.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES IN URBAN AND RURAL TERRITORY, AND TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX, BY STATES, 1926: APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION AND STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS			TOTAL MEMBERSHIP BY SEX		
	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Male	Female	Males per 100 females ⁽¹⁾
United States	53	10	43	5,709	1,215	4,494	2,107	3,602	58.5
New England:									
Connecticut.....	1		1	211		211	88	123	71.5
Middle Atlantic:									
New York.....	2		2	174		174	69	105	65.7
New Jersey.....	1	1		62	62		20	42	
East North Central:									
Ohio.....	8	4	4	668	347	321	218	450	48.4
Indiana.....	8		8	580		580	230	350	65.7
Illinois.....	12	3	9	2,828	732	2,096	999	1,829	54.6
Michigan.....	2		2	115		115	49	66	
West North Central:									
Minnesota.....	2		2	108		108	48	60	
Iowa.....	5		5	279		279	112	167	67.1
Missouri.....	2		2	55		55	22	33	
Kansas.....	6	1	5	430	38	392	173	257	67.3
West South Central:									
Oklahoma.....	1		1	85		85	28	57	
Mountain:									
Utah.....	1		1	19		19	9	10	
Pacific:									
Oregon.....	2	1	1	95	36	59	42	53	

¹ Ratio not shown where number of females is less than 100.

TABLE 4.—NUMBER AND MEMBERSHIP OF CHURCHES, BY STATES, 1906 TO 1926: APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches in either 1926, 1916, or 1906]

STATE	NUMBER OF CHURCHES			NUMBER OF MEMBERS		
	1926	1916	1906	1926	1916	1906
United States	53	54	41	5,709	4,766	4,558
Ohio.....	8	6	8	668	428	539
Indiana.....	8	8	6	580	628	380
Illinois.....	12	15	14	2,828	2,165	2,515
Iowa.....	5	5	3	279	290	184
Kansas.....	6	6	4	430	437	417
Other States	14	14	6	924	818	523

**TABLE 5.—VALUE OF CHURCH PROPERTY, AND CHURCH DEBT, BY STATES, 1926:
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches reporting value of edifices]

STATE	Total number of churches	Number of church edifices	VALUE OF CHURCH EDIFICES		DEBT ON CHURCH EDIFICES	
			Churches reporting	Amount	Churches reporting	Amount
United States	53	56	48	\$476,800	6	\$11,650
Ohio	8	8	7	59,500		
Indiana	8	11	8	65,500	2	5,600
Illinois	12	14	11	224,000	2	4,500
Iowa	5	4	4	17,000		
Kansas	6	6	6	32,000	1	150
Other States	14	13	12	78,800	1	1,400

**TABLE 6.—CHURCH EXPENDITURES AND SUNDAY SCHOOLS, BY STATES, 1926:
APOSTOLIC CHRISTIAN CHURCH**

[Separate presentation is limited to States having 3 or more churches reporting expenditures]

STATE	Total number of churches	EXPENDITURES DURING YEAR				SUNDAY SCHOOLS		
		Churches reporting	Total amount	For current expenses and improvements	For benevolences, missions, etc.	Churches reporting	Officers and teachers	Scholars
United States	53	49	\$36,072	\$27,249	\$8,823	48	228	2,581
Ohio	8	7	5,527	4,167	1,360	7	40	454
Indiana	8	6	5,417	4,686	731	8	33	372
Illinois	12	12	14,442	10,578	3,864	12	67	805
Iowa	5	5	816	636	180	4	16	208
Kansas	6	6	2,309	1,639	670	5	18	243
Other States	14	13	7,561	5,543	2,018	12	54	499

HISTORY, DOCTRINE, AND ORGANIZATION ¹

The Apostolic Christian Church traces its origin to a Swiss, the Rev. S. H. Froehlich, who came to this country about the middle of the nineteenth century and established a number of German-Swiss churches. The principal characteristic of these churches is the development of the doctrine of entire sanctification. The different organizations are distinct from each other, although combining in a loose association, and they are considering the advisability of a more definite organization.

¹ This statement, which is substantially the same as that published in Part II of the Report on Religious Bodies, 1916, has been revised by Rev. P. A. Klopfenstein, Gridley, Ill., and approved by him in its present form.